

China backs Arab peace efforts

PEKING (AP) — Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang has said that China is willing to work with Arab nations to ease the tension in the Gulf, the state-run Xinhua news agency reported. Mr. Zhao, speaking at a meeting on Saturday with Jordanian Foreign Minister Tareq Al Masri, said China hopes Iran and Iraq will end their "senseless" war on terms acceptable to both sides. He urged them to conciliate with the U.N. Security Council in achieving peace, Xinhua said. The July 20 United Nations ceasefire resolution "provides a good basis for political settlement to the Iran-Iraq conflict." Mr. Zhao was quoted as saying. Mr. Masri said the resolution was balanced and took into consideration the interests of both sides. Mr. Masri heads a six-member Arab League delegation that arrived Friday to discuss the Gulf situation with Chinese leaders. On Saturday, he expressed satisfaction with China's clear-cut position, Xinhua said. Earlier Saturday, Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian met with Mr. Masri and reiterated China's position of strict neutrality and active reconciliation, Xinhua said. The United States and others say China, a permanent member of the Security Council, is a major supplier of arms to Iran.

Jordan Times

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Cheysson hopeful over peace prospects

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad discussed the Middle East and relations with the European Community Sunday with visiting EC Commissioner Claude Cheysson, the Syrian news agency (SANA), reported. The talks were attended by Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa. Mr. Cheysson later left Damascus. Speaking before his departure, Mr. Cheysson expressed hope that an urgent Arab summit would discuss prospects of an international peace conference on the Middle East as well as launch moves to end the Gulf war. He said there was a "good chance" for holding the proposed peace conference. "My talks with the Syrian leadership centred on the sought international conference on the Middle East. I would carry the impressions I gathered during my stay here to the EC," said Mr. Cheysson. He refused to elaborate. On the EC's stand on the increasing tension in the Gulf, Mr. Cheysson said that although the 12-member bloc's relations with the area focused more on economic aspects, it believed that "freedom of navigation" should be maintained in the Gulf area. He described the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war as "the deterioration of civilisation."

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Saudi interior minister due today

AMMAN (Petra) — Saudi Interior Minister Prince Navef Ibn Abdul Aziz is due here today on an official three-day visit to Jordan during which he will be received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The Saudi minister will also hold talks with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani dealing with bolstering Saudi Arabian-Jordanian cooperation in security affairs. Prince Navef will be accompanied by an official delegation.

Morocco suggests Islamic summit

RABAT (R) — Morocco has suggested that an extra-ordinary Islamic summit conference be held to discuss the violence during this year's pilgrimage to Mecca, diplomatic sources said on Sunday. The suggestion was conveyed on Saturday to chiefs of diplomatic missions from Islamic countries in Rabat by Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki, the sources said. A special summit was first proposed by Egypt after more than 400 pilgrims died on July 31 in violence following a demonstration in Islam's holiest city by pilgrims from Iran. The last regular summit, the 5th organised by the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), was held in Kuwait in January.

Argentines vote

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — Nineteen million Argentines voted Sunday in national elections that could derail President Raul Alfonsin's efforts at constitutional reform and cost his ruling party its narrow majority in the House of Deputies. Voting began at 8 a.m. (1100 GMT) in 74,000 polling places from frigid Tierra del Fuego to the Bolivian border in elections for half of the 254 seats in the lower house, 21 of the 22 provincial governors and almost 10,000 mayoral and municipal posts. Voting in Argentina is obligatory.

Ozal calls elections

ANKARA (AP) — Premier Turgut Ozal, without waiting for the result of a crucial referendum, called Sunday for early elections a year ahead of schedule. Mr. Ozal made his announcement immediately after polls closed on a referendum vote on lifting constitutional bans which forbid several dozen former politicians from joining parties or seeking elective office until 1992 (See page 2). Mr. Ozal said the executive committee of his ruling Motherland Party had decided to call for early elections in November.

Siamese twins successfully separated

BALTIMORE (AP) — A 70-member team at Johns Hopkins Hospital on Sunday successfully separated seven-month-old Siamese twins joined at the head in a complicated operation that doctors said had a 50 per cent chance of succeeding. The operation on the West German twins began early Saturday and was completed at 5:10 a.m. (0910 GMT) Sunday morning, said a spokeswoman for the hospital's children's centre. "At the end of the 22-hour operation, the boys — Patrick and Benjamin Binder — who are now two separate twins — were in critical but stable condition," she said.

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King, opening national conference on education, calls for qualitative reform

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein said Sunday the momentum of education in Jordan was decelerating in terms of quality and called for a timely review and reform of the education system towards a better adjustment to the pressing demands of a fast-changing world.

Opening a national conference on education, the King said the focus of education should be on quality rather than quantity so that students are trained and prepared in a way that makes the best out of the Kingdom's available resources.

The King said His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan supervised the review and reform process since its initiation and that he

himself took part in discussions of the national committee established for this purpose.

"Review and reform reactivate the country's systems and institutions," the King said in his speech at the Royal Cultural Centre on Sunday. The process of review and reform "is a course we have always followed and prepared... it is time for its implementation in the field of education by employing our experience and knowledge," the King added.

He said four principles should guide the revamping of the education system and policy. He said the four principles were:

— Preserving of a qualitative balance between resources and the population.

— Safeguarding the balance between the Jordanian national character and the world's cultures.

— Adjusting to changing times.

— Preserving the belief in God and spiritual values and the importance of science in life and respect for work.

In the past 25 years, the King said, the world witnessed a technological revolution in the area of knowledge and information that resulted in many changes in the fields of human activity. The changes occurred in the fields of science, medicine, communications, genetic engineering, energy, electronics and physics, he noted. Other changes were witnessed in the economic, financial and social fields, he said.

These changes posed many questions that need to be

(Continued on page 3)

Conference begins deliberations over new education strategies, page 3

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Gulf war plays into Israel's hands, Arab observers say

By John Fullerton
Reuter

NICOSIA — New attacks on oil tankers by Gulf war foes Iran and Iraq have played into the hands of Israel and overshadowed the Middle East peace process, Arab observers say.

"The Gulf war is strengthening Israel's position," said a Palestinian official in Beirut. "Iran and Iraq are using up their energies and the only beneficiary is Israel."

As if to underline Palestinian fears of isolation, Israel launched a massive air raid on Palestinian targets in South Lebanon on Saturday, the bloodiest since its forces invaded the country in 1982. At least 40 people were killed.

"Nobody even blinked," said a Palestinian near the southern port city of Sidon. "The Arabs are too bothered about their oil and the threat posed by Iran."

In Amman, a Western diplomat told Reuters: "The peace process is now on the back-burner."

"The Gulf war has widened the split in Arab ranks, with Egypt and especially Saudi Arabia be-

coming more influential," one Palestinian said.

He added: "There is a general Arab movement to the right ... and any split among Arabs is bad news for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)."

In Cairo, political observers said fear of Iran had helped to end Cairo's isolation from Gulf Arab states after Egypt signed the 1979 Camp David peace accord with Israel.

NEWS ANALYSIS

"Egypt is now viewed as the knight that could rescue threatened Gulf Arab states," one analyst said.

A Cairo-based diplomat added: "As far as Egyptian foreign policy is concerned, they (the Egyptians) can see more mileage to be gained from the Gulf than

U.S. ambassador 'told Iraq' to stop Gulf tanker attacks

LONDON (R) — The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations said on Sunday he told his Iraqi counterpart in strong terms that Iraq should stop its air war against Gulf shipping.

"I spoke very strongly to the Iraqi ambassador to the United Nations about the need to cease and desist from these attacks in the Gulf," envoy Gen. Vernon Walters said in British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) interview from Washington.

He denied British press reports that the United States had encouraged Iraq to launch air raids against tankers carrying Iranian oil as a means of forcing Tehran to accept a U.N.-approved ceasefire in the seven-year-old Gulf war.

Iraq has said its aircraft attacked three Iranian tankers in less than 24 hours as part of an

Pregnant Lebanese held in Cyprus after drug find

LARNACA, Cyprus (R) — A pregnant woman from Lebanon's Bekaa Valley drug-growing area was remanded in custody on Sunday after Larnaca airport police found a kilo (2.2 pounds) of heroin taped to her body.

Larnaca district court heard that police did not yet know if Nabil Awad, 21, from Balibek, was related to the two children with her and her companion Ahmad Murad, 40, also from Balibek.

Police said the group arrived by ship from Lebanon in August.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 7411-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 ... Koran
15:30 ... Programme review
15:35 ... Children and children's program
16:15 ... Sports
17:30 ... The Wonderful World of Magic
18:30 ... Arabic series
18:50 ... Local cultural debate
19:10 ... Message from Oman
19:25 ... Local programme on the Armed Forces

PROGRAMME TWO

19:30 ... Rue Coup de Monde

19:30 ... News in Arabic

21:30 ... Tourism in Jordan/Tatich

22:00 ... Arab Doctors

22:30 ... News Summaries in Arabic

22:30 ... Arab Doctors continued

23:30 ... Rue Coup de Monde

23:30 ... News in Arabic

23:30 ... Just a Minute

23:30 ... Follow the Wind

23:30 ... News Summaries

23:30 ... Top Session

23:30 ... News Summaries

23:30 ... Pop Session Continued

23:30 ... News Bulletin

23:30 ... Morning Show

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Seminar on construction safety reviews reports

AMMAN (Petra) — Participants in a seminar on safety measures in the construction sector on Sunday reviewed two working papers dealing with safe and proper handling of construction tools and equipment, and health hazards on construction sites.

The first paper underlined the need for basic medical services and sanitation, portable drinking water, and fire fighting equipment which, it said, should be available for workers. The paper addressed the importance of providing means of protection for workers against the dangers of welding flames, and for building protective walls and fences around the digging sites.

Posters and other indicators warning the public and drivers of the presence of pit holes and other dangers on the work site should be installed and remain as long as the project lasts, the paper said.

The report also underlined the important role of engineers and workers in maintaining safety and precautionary measures, as well as methods for spreading awareness among workers about occupational risk and safety measures.

The second paper reviewed

occupational hazards brought on by the unstable volume of workers moving about the work site, and also the effects of weather on these workers. The paper also referred to common, but serious construction accidents, such as workers falling from high places and building materials and equipment dropping on workers during construction operations.

It also referred to the need for educating workers about the dangers of electricity, and gas cylinders, the use of explosive materials, in addition to skin diseases, strokes, and other health hazards to which workers are normally exposed.

The paper also emphasised the safe and proper use of stable scaffolds, ladders, and various other equipments.

The two-day seminar was opened by Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Haj Hassan in Amman on Saturday with a speech, in which he revealed that 28 per cent of the total number of occupational accidents and injuries in 1982 occurred in the construction business.

The seminar was organised by the Jordanian Engineers Association in conjunction with the Industrial Development Bank.



His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, and Minister of Education Thousyan Hindawi, participate in the discussion during the first session of the National Conference on Education.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet names mayor, approves memoranda

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has appointed Mr. Hamad Hussein Abu Mdeires as mayor of Kraimeh in the northern Jordan Valley. The Cabinet also approved the exchange of memoranda between Jordan and Britain over a loan agreement in which Jordan will obtain £10 million. The loan will help finance the implementation of projects contained in the 1986-1990 five year plan.

Transport minister inspects Aqaba port

AQABA (Petra) — Minister of Transport Ahmad Dakhwan on Sunday visited the port city of Aqaba and met with the director of the port, Eid Al Fayed. Later the minister inspected parts of the port facilities and called at an office which coordinates transportation procedures between Aqaba and Iraq. Mr. Fayed earlier chaired a meeting of the board of directors of the Jordanian Ports Corporation to discuss a general budget for 1988. After the meeting, Mr. Fayed said that the board decided to squeeze the capital projects for the coming year, and they will submit the draft budget to the General Budget Department for approval.

Engineering faculty to organise exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — The Engineering and Technology Faculty of the University of Jordan will organise an exhibition of engineering products, materials, and equipment manufactured in Jordan, in the course of its current silver jubilee celebrations. Dr. Bassam Abu Ghazaleh, dean of the Students Affairs Department, said that the 20 local firms will participate in the exhibition to be held on campus. There will also be two seminars on engineering and on chemical industries, satellite communications, energy, and architecture in Jordan, Dr. Abu Ghazaleh noted.

6,000 tonnes of bad food destroyed

ZARQA (Petra) — A total of 6,000 tonnes of food supplies and canned food was destroyed here Sunday after being found unfit for human consumption. Mr. Badri Bahauddin, chairman of the municipality's committee, said that the food supplies were seized during inspection tours of stores and food shops conducted by health authorities in Zarqa. He said that inspection tours will continue, and that violators of health regulations will be referred to court for trial. He also urged members of the public to report on stores which sell bad food.

Energy minister opens physics session

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib on Sunday underlined the importance of the projected higher council on science and technology in Jordan. He said that such council should draft a general policy on science and define priorities in scientific research projects and studies that can serve national development plans.

Dr. Khatib was addressing the opening session of the fourth meeting of the Petra School of Physics held at the University of Jordan. The minister was deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The new council, which will soon be operational, is expected to set up scientific research centres, to direct research work in all institutions, and to finance their projects, which should conform to the needs of the Kingdom. Dr. Khatib said.

Dr. Khatib called on all Jordanian physicists to expand their contacts with their colleagues abroad, and to enlist their help in promoting the work of the Petra School of Physics.

The meeting was opened by University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali, who said

that the Petra School of Physics could be regarded as a forum for intellectuals and scientists to exchange views and information. He called on other Arab countries to join in the efforts being made by the Petra School of Physics to promote cooperation among scientists in the Arab World.

Dr. Ahmad Salem, chairman of a preparatory committee for the meeting, said that this year

the school is mainly concerned with discussing magnetism, magnetic materials, and their application in different fields.

The Petra School of Physics conducts scientific activity and organises lectures and seminars in its annual meetings, Dr. Salem said. He added that the participants in this year's session will submit 15 research papers to be reviewed during the eight-day meeting.

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Jordan Times

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Guidelines for reform

His MAJESTY King Hussein's speech yesterday at the opening of the National Conference on Education will surely be categorised as one of the King's most important national speeches yet. Its historic relevance and significance can be attributed first and foremost to its civilisational dimension, which cogently touched upon nearly all aspects of life in the Kingdom, as well as Jordan's interaction with other civilisational forces on a global basis.

In laying down principles for reviewing and reforming Jordan's educational system, His Majesty aptly presented our system from both a national and an international perspective. After poignantly referring to man as the most valuable resource that we possess, King Hussein proceeded in yesterday's speech to say that it was high time, indeed, to subject the educational system in Jordan to the kind of review and reformation that the other dimensions of life in Jordan had undergone already. The King also instructed our educators and academics that their re-evaluation of the educational programme must be guided by four main concerns, all of which are equally significant; and, when combined, they form a complementary and indispensable system of goals.

Whether one highlights His Majesty's call to accord spirituality and religion their due in any reformation, to be introduced to our educational system, or his observation that we in Jordan live in an interdependent world where we should strive to preserve our national identity, as well as remain receptive to the outside world and its positive messages and contributions, one deals with issues which are highly interconnected. "We are all partners in one human global drama," King Hussein reminded the audience during the opening of the conference. In this human global drama we all share common problems and face common challenges. Each of us, in this small world of ours, contributes in his or her special way and capacity, the King reminded the Jordanian academics and educators. And, in advocating a new educational system for Jordan, His Majesty cautioned the nation that, whatever educational system that we introduce and adopt, it should be a flexible and dynamic one capable of adapting to the developments of a changing world.

The King's speech also addressed local and indigenous problems and concerns in education by incorporating the need to draw an equitable balance between man and his resources and conditions. His Majesty called on our policymakers in education, as well as on our children and, indeed, their parents and families, to choose wisely the educational pursuits of our youth to assure optimum harmony between man in Jordan and his environment in the broadest sense. But, above all, King Hussein's address to the National Conference on Education reminded Jordanians that the educational institution in Jordan is the single most important catalyst for transformation in the country, and that it embodies within it the seeds that will determine our collective future. The form and quality of education which will be made available to our younger generations now, and in the future, will surely decide our fate and place among the community of nations and peoples. To paraphrase the words of His Majesty, we in Jordan do not live on an island where we can indulge in pursuits in an international vacuum. Rather, we should be prepared to give and take, to contribute and learn in a continuous process which will keep our giant door of *ijtihad* scrupulously open. Our current review and reformation shall be continuous and not an isolated event or a rare episode or phenomenon. King Hussein demanded. These are heartening words, and we must do our best — officials, educators, and citizens alike — to respond to this demand.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Exemplary cooperation

AFTER 35 years of waiting and near loss of hope, Jordan and Syria have been able to take the first step in the long march towards building the Wahdeh Dam with the conclusion of an agreement in Amman last Thursday to jointly exploit the water of Yarmouk River. The deal does not only reflect the two countries' desire to launch joint action for further prosperity, but it also reflects their determination to overcome difficulties and the role of sabotage which the Israeli enemy had tried to play against its Arab neighbours and their cooperation in economic and political fields. It is a success over all conspiracies against Arab coordination and Arab development, and will have its far-reaching effects on the Arab World as a whole. Jordan started thinking seriously about exploiting the potential wealth of Yarmouk River in 1982 but the Israelis have been obstructing steps taken in this direction and have been trying to steal Arab water. The Arabs still remember Israel's conspiracies to block the construction of Khaled ibn Al Walid dam and its raid on that dam in the 1967 aggression. The agreement reached on Thursday on building the dam represents a political as well as an economic decision, coming as a fruit of Jordanian-Syrian cooperation.

Al Dustour: Israel terrorises Lebanon

ISRAEL'S brutal air raid on Ain Al Hilweh launched Saturday inflicted heavy casualties on the Palestinian refugees and showed beyond doubt that the Israelis still maintain their terrorist policies which they had started decades ago. This massacre committed by Zionists without any provocation, represents another dangerous escalation of the situation in the Middle East, and is another move to aggravate the sufferings and the ordeal of tens of thousands of refugees who have been evicted from their homeland by the use of force. The fresh raid which caused the death and injury of tens of men, women and children did not come as a reply to resistance activity in South Lebanon or occupied Palestine. It was a crime committed in cold blood without any justification and only for the sake of getting rid of Palestinians everywhere. Blinded and drunk with its military superiority, and tempted by a weak and divided Arab World, Israel has been pursuing a policy of killing and destroying all that which can be related to Palestinian people.

Sawt Al Shabab: Israeli aggression

SINCE the establishment of the Jewish state in Palestine Israel's terrorism and aggressive actions have never stopped. The latest such aggression was directed Saturday on Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp on the outskirts of Sidon in South Lebanon. The raid was encouraged by the weak Arab World and the absence of any power to deter the enemy from committing further acts of aggression on Arab people. The raids were encouraged by the lack of peace which Israel has been careful to avoid, and as a result of deep Zionist belief that continued aggression and continued terrorism will finally impose a de facto solution on the Arabs and will fulfil Zionism's dreams. Every time Israel launches air raids on the camps and the Arab towns and cities tens of innocent people fall victim.



Step by step Arab economic integration

By Dr. Waleed Sadi

with the Maghreb countries under the aegis of the Arab League system.

One would venture to suggest that the first order of business for any given sub-regional Arab economic association should address the issue and objective of freedom of movement of the peoples affected by any such association. Freedom of movement of peoples entails in the final analysis also freedom of movement of their ideas, modes of transportation and capital. In the physical sense, freedom of movement of people and their modes of transportation would necessarily mean a dignified and efficient processing of entry and exit of the citizens of the member states of the concerned sub-regional Arab associations within their respective sub-region on the basis of identification papers and titles of motor vehicles used for the purpose of their transportation to and from such states. We all have seen how efficient and dignified is the entry and departure procedures instituted between the European countries and how enviable we, the Arabs, have become of their "civilised" ways in these contexts. The Arab peoples are entitled now to similar treatment at least when they cross the borders of their own Arab countries and are yearning impatiently for the day when crossing the border of one Arab country into another Arab country would be done with dignity and efficiency. That's why sub-regional associations within the Arab World could offer the first avenue towards the total and overall inter-Arab countries travel with honour and dignity.

Freedom of ideas within the context of this discussion would entail of course freedom of transfer of technology both in its intellectual and mechanical dimensions with a view to affect and realise an equilibrium in the developments of the Arab countries member of any given sub-regional association in all spheres and aspects of human and economic endeavours. Tariff barriers would also have to be dismantled and eliminated between the member Arab states of the sub-regional associations if not in one giant and bold leap then by stages should there be fear that major economic dislocations would ensue should tariff barriers be removed abruptly. Transfers of capital between member states of any given sub-regional Arab association should likewise be facilitated and promoted with minimum restrictions and controls to ensure maximum harmony between the various aspects and manifestations of the sub-regional association. A unitary currency must be envisaged in the final analysis. It goes without saying that the economic and industrial planning in each and every Arab member state of any given sub-regional association must be conducted in due course and within the context of an overall sub-regional

economic and industrial master plan to ensure optimum efficiency and in order to avoid duplication of efforts and endeavours to the greatest extent possible. To be sure all these suggested efforts for economic cooperation and coordination cannot bear fruit without being complemented by a series of other steps and measures which would fall under the category of sub-regional infrastructure building ranging from the elaboration of networks of highways and other forms of modes of communications, electricity lines and water sources all inter connected on a sub-regional basis, at least for the duration of the interim period envisaged here.

Residency and work permits for the citizens of the Arab member countries of the projected sub-regional associations must of course be liberalised within the respective sub-region to the greatest extent possible with a view to accord the objective of freedom of movement of peoples, ideas and capital real value and meaning. Needless to say, the peculiar economic constraints and hardships posed in any Arab member country of any given sub-regional association must be reckoned with and dealt with in the process of executing the policy of liberalised granting of work permits in particular.

The list of issues and objectives that need to be agreed upon in the proposed Arab-regional associations is indeed long and it is certainly outside the scope of this writing to cover them all. Rather the intent of this writer is to dwell on the principle of affecting sub-regional Arab associations and to elaborate on some of the modalities for rendering them operational on an interim basis. We must not lose sight of the fact at all times that the ultimate objective is to have one that can function along the same guidelines governing the European Community association. The road to this objective is indeed long and tortuous but a genuine beginning must be made during the lifetime of present Arab generations if the Arab World wants and seeks to share one common destiny and regain its civilisational weight and relevancy in international relations. Whether the Arab states outside the orbit of the Gulf Cooperation Council will be truly forthcoming in their pious advocacy of Arab cooperation and coordination and accept to sacrifice some elements and features of their individualistic and selfish interests for the sake of the greater goal of an Arab common market has yet to be put to the real test. Arab governments in the East and the West must have taken notice by now that their peoples yearn for an overall Arab common market and when given an opportunity will exercise their collective will in favour of such a market without hesitation. Surely the day will come when this Arab will shall be implemented.

Public opinion and the Middle East conflict

By Fouad Moughrabi

TABLE 9
American sympathies in the Middle East*

	Israel	Arab Nations	Neither	No Opinion	Total	(per cent)
1982: September	32	28	n/a	n/a	60	60
August	41	12	31	16	100	67
June	52	10	29	9	100	59
April-May	51	10	26	11	100	55
January	49	14	23	14	100	51
1981: July-August	44	11	34	11	100	49
January	40	14	31	15	100	45
1979: November	39	13	30	18	100	39
September (late)	42	12	29	17	100	43
September (early)	41	12	29	18	100	35
August	44	10	33	13	100	37
April-May	44	10	33	13	100	33
March	38	11	33	18	100	33
February	33	14	28	25	100	33
1977: December	44	10	27	19	100	44
October	46	11	21	22	100	46
June	44	8	28	20	100	44
1975: January	44	8	22	26	100	44
1973: December	50	7	25	18	100	50
October	47	6	22	25	100	47
1970: March	44	3	32	21	100	44
1969: January	50	5	28	17	100	50
1967: June	56	4	25	15	100	56

Question: "In the Middle East conflict, do you think the U.S. should favor Israel, favor the Arab countries, or should the U.S. not favor one side over the other?"

TABLE 11
U.S. Neutrality in the Middle East (1985)*

	(percent)
U.S. should favor Israel	19.7
U.S. should favor Arabs	0.2
U.S. should favor neither side	69.6
Don't know	10.5
Total	100.0

Question: "In the Middle East conflict, do you think the U.S. should favor Israel, favor the Arab countries, or should the U.S. not favor one side over the other?"

*Survey Research Center: (1985) on behalf of the International Center for Research and Public Policy; n=655.

Source: Adapted from American Public Opinion and U.S. Foreign Policy (Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, 1983).

TABLE 12
Military Aid and Arms Sales (1974, 1978, 1982)

	1974 Public	1978 Public	1978 Leaders	1982 Public	1982 Leaders	(percent)
In favor of military aid	22	29	60	28	59	59
In favor of military sales	35	67	39	39	39	39
Military aid helps security	69	72	87	71	76	76
of other nations	60	59	40	55	31	31
Military aid helps economy	44	49	70	51	68	68
of other nations	31	43	75	39	69	69
Military aid is a good substitute for using U.S. troops	36	35	66	37	65	65
Military aid helps our economy	78	79	55	78	53	53
Military aid helps prevent communism	59	61	73	65	68	68
Military aid gets us too involved in other countries' affairs	59	61	73	65	68	68
Military aid less dictators use power against their own people	59	61	73	65	68	68

Question: "On the whole, do you favor or oppose our giving military aid to other nations? By 'military aid' I mean arms and equipment, but not troops."

"On the whole, do you favor or oppose our government selling military equipment to other nations?"

Source: Adapted from American Public Opinion and U.S. Foreign Policy (Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, 1983).

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Arab film festival in London this month

LONDON — This month the National Film Theatre will host London's first Arab Film Festival. The 55,000 members of the British Arab Film Institute will at last have the chance to see some of the outstanding films made in the Arab World over the past 20 years.

There will be films from Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria and Kuwait. The wide variety of directors and of themes offers a fascinating window on Arab Society — its traditions, aspirations and contradictions.

Ironically, most of these films have not been widely distributed in Arab World itself, partly due to the lack of a proper cinematographic infrastructure, distribution facilities and strategy, but also because of the somewhat sensitive nature of many of the issues with which the films deal.

Represented at the festival will be well-established film directors such as Youssef Chahine (*The Land and The Sparrow*), Mohammad Lakhdar-Hamina (*Years of the Bazaar*), and Ahmed Rachedi (*Opium and the Rod*). There will also be some more recent classics such as Bourhan Al-

wiyeh's *Kaf Qasseem*, Mohammad Malas's *City Dreams* and Khalid Al Sadiq's *The Cruel Sea*.

The new generation of directors is represented by Tunisian Nacer Khemir's *Searchers in the Desert*; Atif Al Tayyeb's *The Bus Driver*; and Samir Zikra's most recent film, *Chronicle of the Year to Come*.

The programme has been compiled by the Committee for the London Arab Film Festival. Rosa Issa, manager of the Kufa Gallery in Westbourne Grove and official consultant to the NFT on Arab cinema and Jana Gongh, a freelance editor who specialises in books on the Arab World.

In the upcoming months Channel 4 will be showing a season of Arab films, including an introductory documentary on Arab cinema, followed by a feature film each week for a month.

Timed to coincide with the London Arab Film Festival are two concerts of Arab music at the Purcell Room on the South Bank. The first by Reinecke O'Rouane, the doyen of classical Arab-Andalusian music, the second is an evening of traditional Arab music given by a group of musicians from Egypt — Arab News.

Sport intensifies brain's blood flow

CEREBRAL blood circulation in humans increases unexpectedly dramatically when the body is subjected to physical strain. These are the surprising findings of experiments conducted by Professor Wolf-Dieter Heibl of the Max-Planck-Institut für neurologische Forschung (Max Planck Institute of Neurological Research) in Cologne and Professor Wildor Hollmann, a sports physician from Cologne, involving test persons riding a bicycle with an ergometer. The results do not coincide with those obtained in animal experiments. The extent

of cerebral blood flow was established by a harmless radio-active marker-substance injected into the bloodstream prior to the beginning of the test. The full significance of this newly discovered phenomenon is still unclear.

According to the two scientists, it is quite possible, however, that the hormone-like neurotransmitters produced by this surge of blood are "flushed out," as it were, and transported to a person's chest whenever they are required there — The German Research Service.

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Public opinion and the Middle East conflict

(Continued from page 4)

slightly higher than the number of those who refuse to do so under any conditions. By 1984, the numbers were reversed as is shown in Table 15, and by 1986, nearly 54 per cent said they object to returning the territories in return for guarantees.

A hardening of the positions occurred in correlation with the increasing polarisation of Israeli society. As Table 17 indicates, the majority of Israelis do not think Israel should negotiate with the PLO even if it officially recognises Israel and refrains from "terrorist" acts.

In addition to splits along ethnic lines, the most important division within Israeli thinking falls along the lines of modernisation versus underdevelopment. Roughly 40 per cent of the society is modernised along Western European lines; the remaining 60 per cent are much less developed in terms of education, secularism and levels of income.

The question here is, whether this split reflects a similar division among the public on issues of peace and settlement.

Gloria Falk argues that there is "little, if any polarisation, as to the complexity of peace issues ... a majority (57 per cent) of Israelis ... hold mixed and sometimes incompatible views on the peace issues, suggesting that positions are not firmly held." The large centre according to Falk is "soft" and could be "malleable" if a real settlement presents itself.

Figures fluctuate according to events. However, this does not explain the rather serious differences in interpretation that characterise various narratives. The *New Outlook* poll of July 1978 was conducted in order to strengthen the argument that there is in the Israeli public a readiness for peace and settlement. Akiva Orr's interpretation in *Middle East International* defines a solution as one involving the return of the occupied territories to Palestinian sovereignty. Gloria Falk's underlying assumption is that a settlement means a trade of territory for peace with Jordan, not the Palestinians. She suggests that an independent Palestine state on the West Bank and Gaza would be an extreme option.

Once these underlying assumptions are spelled out, the figures and the narrative interpretations begin to make sense. Let us, however, look at the data without any preconditions.

Table 18 shows results of a nationwide survey which asked the public the following question: "Do you support those who act to make the Arabs leave Judea and Samaria?" Sympathy for Rabbi Meir Kahane's suggestion that the Palestinians should be expelled from their homes on the West Bank and Gaza has increased by 10 per cent from February 1985 to September 1986. In other words, roughly 40 per cent of the Israeli public now approves the extremist positions advocated by Kahane and others.

The increase in public support

Food on the hoof breaks into a gallop

Frances McElroy examines the changing eating habits of the three-meals-a-day Briton, who is now likely to nibble in The Yorkshire Pub or square up to a sticky bun in The Old Square.

LONDON — Britain is becoming a nation of nibblers. Those used to three set meals a day are changing to less formal patterns and eating more adventurously.

The Americans call it grazing, eating small amounts and often, and there is a rising trend in Britain towards "picking," choosing food from a variety of ready-made snacks. The fast food explosion and more rapid pace of life have contributed to this.

Nowhere is this preference for "food on the hoof" more evident than in the new phenomenon in the U.K. of "food courts." These days it seems no competitive shopping centre, leisure or sports complex leaves the drawing board without this magic ingredient.

A food court is "a deliberately-created refreshment area comprising separate food shops, stalls and kiosks serviced by communal seating," according to Fitch and Co, which designed the U.K.'s first food court in 1983.

An average court contains from eight to 10 trading kiosks selling varieties of food, has seating for about 350 people and covers about 12,000 sq ft. A typical mix kiosks might include a pizza parlour next to a hamburger or Mexican bar — Mexican is the most rapidly growing type of fast food in the U.K. — close to a sticky-bun counter, an ice-cream or cookie bar, a seafood bar and a fruit-juice counter.

"The idea," says Mr. Shingler, "is that the court acts as a parasite on the pedestrian flow. Having trapped shoppers, it refuels them and extends the 'dwell' time and so they are likely to spend more money."

Faced with the proliferation of shopping centres, developers and investors are looking for the competitive edge. Mr. Rune Gustafson of Fitch explains: "Gone are the days when shopping centres had pre-ordained catchment areas. Now shoppers have a choice of centres within a few miles of their homes. And with many centres containing the same core shops, one point of difference can be the food court."

In inner cities, food courts are becoming the modern-day village green, Mr. Gustafson suggests. They can act as a meeting place,

somewhere to sit and watch the world go by. "It's not the same as sitting in a Woolworths or a British Home Stores having a cuppa..."

Food courts may be the flavour of the moment with developers, but guaranteeing the success of such schemes — which cost at least £1 million (\$1.62 million) each — is another matter. It is a high-risk area and one which specialists predict will claim more casualties. If the location is wrong or the types of food on offer are misjudged, failure is likely.

One example of getting the food wrong happened in The Ridings Scheme in Wakefield, Yorkshire. Of the 10 kiosks in the food court, one sold Indian food. Despite being heavily patronised at lunchtime and serving quality food, it proved to be the least popular in terms of sales. The situation was remedied when the Indian food was replaced by a kiosk called The Yorkshire Pud which is among the court's best sellers.

By first attracting and then trapping shoppers, as developers have discovered, a successful food court acts as an engine to drive sales throughout the entire shopping centre.

Mr. Anthony Shingler, of Morgan Grenfell Laurie, tells of two similar shopping centres on the east coast of America. One has a food court, the other has not. The one with the court is said to have a sales turnover of between 30 to 50 per cent higher than its rival.

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Randa Habib's Corner

Fillers

A LETTER from a reader attracted my attention to the problem of "fillers" on JTV Channel 2. The fact is that often, between programmes, JTV broadcasts mostly variety videos of pop singers and groups. And even though many viewers enjoy pop music, others have the right to watch something else. Why not include travel news, even a funny cartoon film would provide a nice break between programmes. The old film shorts of Laurel and Hardy, and the unforgettable Charlie Chaplin would also fit perfectly.

Varities must be a full programme on their own, and not only fillers. Music Box had fans of all age groups, and that programme should remain fixed on a specific day, as a full programme. As for the "in between" programmes, JTV should either organise its scheduling in such a way that "fillers" are not required, or else locally-produced national films would also do the job. Short touristic films about Jordan's new archaeological and touristic sites, still unknown to the public would be welcome. The Zarga Mai's spa is a good example. The Dibbina Park, known by few people, is also a suitable topic. Sports activities in Jordan, from rallies to soccer games, can also form short programmes independent from the news. There are hundreds of examples of local or foreign items that could fit perfectly in the ever so numerous "fill-in" times on JTV.

Failures lead African governments to privatise state-owned industries

By Larry James
The Associated Press

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — From

Senegal to Angola, West African nations are selling off state-owned enterprises to private interests.

The goal is to take bloated, inefficient companies off the state payroll and sell them to private investors who might be able to make them work better.

But there are problems: It's tough finding buyers for some state companies, and it may be a long time before the buyers can make a solid return on their investments.

In recent moves toward opening state companies to private ownership:

— Officials of the Ivorian economy and finance ministry are expected to offer for sale equity holdings in 103 state companies involved in shipping, palm oil, rail and transport and textiles.

— Senegal announced plans in July for the privatisation of 26 of 51 companies the government partly owns or controls. These include a textile manufacturer, hotels, banks and an aluminium foundry.

— Ghana announced this month

it will divest 30 state-owned enterprises.

— Zaire has dissolved nine state banking, fisheries, and transportation enterprises.

— Nigeria is looking for buyers for state-owned banks, breweries and insurance companies.

— Benin and Congo have expressed a desire to sell semi-government companies that are draining national treasures.

— Marxist Angola has said it wants to create a private sector, and representatives have met with potential American investors.

— In the early 1960s, many newly independent governments were determined to reap the benefits of their countries' resources.

They put most companies in public hands, declaring that no longer would private, foreign-owned companies get rich at their expense.

— However, government companies often grew into monsters, employing many people but accomplishing little.

Ghana, once the world's largest cocoa producer, established a cocoa marketing board to buy from farmers and sell on international markets. Authorities planned to use earnings from the country's major product to finance development.

— But because of low prices offered by the board to farmers, many farmers left the fields for

share in the 12-per cent dividend the mill paid last year.

Moore is so pleased with results he has just purchased a former shoe factory in neighbouring Benin to make roofing materials.

Western bankers and aid specialists like the trend.

"We don't believe governments should be in the business of business," said Donald Sherk, a representative of the African Development Bank in Abidjan.

Sherk adds, however, that the rush to privatise does include some risks.

"We are concerned that by a premature leap into privatisation, the private sector could get condemned for not being the answer for the development of Africa."

"I think the euphoria of privatisation may well wear off short; when there are not going to be takers," Moore said.

In Washington, Gerald Funk, a U.S. business consultant who formerly served on the U.S. National Security Council under President Jimmy Carter, agreed.

Funk suggested in an interview with the Associated Press that many public enterprises had been badly run in the past and are hardly lucrative targets for private takeovers.

"That's why it's hard to find buyers to pick up the pieces," he said.

Doctors can usually do little for backache, says specialist

BACKACHE is seldom helped by

doctors; 95 per cent of cases recover spontaneously within two or three weeks. Swedish orthopaedic surgeon Erik Spangfort says.

Professor Spangfort, of Huddinge University Hospital, was in Hamburg for the Fifth International Congress on pain.

He told the German news agency, dpa, in answer to a question, that acupuncture could ease back pain but not cure it.

Kay Brune of Erlangen University said there was no such thing as the "best drug" for treating arthritis. It was up to the medical profession to prove its skill in using tried and trusted methods.

Asked how he felt about acupuncture, Professor Spangfort admitted that doctors were in a difficult position. One reason was that patients were not, as he saw it,

It was extremely difficult to pinpoint the cause of backache. In many cases there were organic causes.

Doctors must, he felt, learn to make sure that a patient's backache did not assume chronic proportions. Only about five per cent of patients suffered from chronic backache of this kind.

They spared neither effort nor expense in their bids to get rid of the pain. They accounted for 80 per cent of expenditure in the orthopaedic sector.

Asked how he felt about acupuncture, Professor Spangfort admitted that doctors were in a difficult position. One reason was that patients were not, as he saw it,

Professor Brune said tried and

trusted non-steroid drugs were still the best way of treating arthritic pain and inflammation.

The latest experiments with drugs such as interferon and Cyclosporin that affect the body's immune system had not proved very promising on closer scrutiny.

Gisele Guillaud of Paris and Robert Schmidt of Wurzburg presented research findings indicating that simple rheumatism drugs blocked sensitivity to pain right in the joint rather than via the nervous system.

There are about 2,000 nerve-ends in a joint. They are normally insensitive but can, in the sick, respond to and register pain.

They were activated by biochemical changes resulting from inflammation, Professor Schmidt said. Other agents inhibited activation. Painkillers based on morphine, which have so far

been felt to work solely via the brain, can also block nerve-ends in a joint and bring rheumatic pain to a halt.

In very serious cases morphine-based drugs could, he felt, be used.

A Frankfurt study group said about at present only 95 to treat 450,000 patients suffering from pain caused by one complaint or another that failed to respond to conventional treatment.

The Frankfurt group, which concentrates mainly on pain research and continuing training for doctors, has branches in eight German cities — *Allgemeine Zeitung*, Mainz.

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It was unlikely that the issue of a peace settlement will be framed in Israel in a manner that deals specifically with the Palestinians. The PLO and the question of self-determination and Palestinian statehood. What is more likely to happen is the rise of "fascism" in Israel.

At the centre of the debate are questions of democracy, Jewishness and the nature of the state of Israel. How can the state remain democratic if it rules over two million Palestinians? To keep Israel Jewish, should one expel all the Arabs from the country? Ze'ev Schiff, a respected defence correspondent for *Ha'aretz*, envisions the possibility of civil war between Jews and Arabs. Other commentator talk openly about the rise of "fascism" in Israel.

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Lewis retains 400-metre relay title in final day of world track tourney

ROME (Agencies) — Carl Lewis overcame a two-metre deficit in the final 100 metres to give the United States the men's 400-metre relay title at the World Track and Field Championships on Sunday.

In winning his second gold medal of the meet, Lewis charged past Soviet Union Anchorman Vladimir Krylov to win by more than one metre, waving the baton in victory as he crossed the finish line. The time was an unofficial 42.53.

The Soviets finished second with Jamaica third.

The U.S. also claimed the first gold medal of the final day of the Games when they dethroned East Germany in the women's 4x100-metres relay final.

East German Silke Gladisch, winner of the individual 100 and 200-metres titles, took out a powerful option on a third gold

medal when she made up the stagger on the two runners outside her and handed over a healthy lead to Cornelia Osenkenat.

But the Americans, Olympic champions in the absence of the boycotting East Germans at the 1984 Los Angeles Games, fought them back.

Florence Griffith, silver medalist behind Gladisch in the 200 metres final, ran a barnstorming third leg and handed over a tremendous lead to Pam Marshall, who completed a rousing victory and gave the United States their seventh Rome title.

Second was Domingos Castro of Portugal with Jack Buckner of Britain third.

1983 world championship in Helsinki, fought to cut back the deficit on the anchor leg, but East Germany's Helsinki title had

already changed hands.

The United States won in 41.58 seconds, ahead of East Germany (41.95) and the Soviet Union (42.53).

Rain fell early in the afternoon, as has become a habit during the last four days, but had stopped when the final day's competition of the nine-day championships began.

Peter Maher of Canada was the early leader in the marathon, which started out from the Olympic Stadium on its 42.195-km course.

Two youngsters trespassed into the race for a brief while, joining the leader outside the stadium, but quickly dropped out after grabbing a share of the camera spotlight.

Maher led by some 50 metres when he passed the five-km mark in 15 minutes 16 seconds.

Aouita wins 5,000 m

ROME (AP) — Said Aouita of Morocco took the lead at the start of the final lap and raced to a 10-metre victory in the men's 5,000 metres at the games on Sunday.

Aouita's unofficial time of 13 minutes, 26.46 seconds was almost a half-minute slower than the world-record 12:58.39 he set on the same Olympic stadium track earlier this summer.

Second was Domingos Castro of Portugal with Jack Buckner of Britain third.

Polish Navy captures Woodward Stakes

NEW YORK (AP) — Polish Navy, who missed the triple crown series because he was the mend from knee surgery, sailed into the three-year-old championship picture Saturday with a victory in the \$595,000 Woodward Stakes at Belmont Park.

"I think the three-year-old championship may be within reach," said trainer Shug

Roche secures 3rd cycling gold in one year

VILLACH, Austria (R) — Ireland's Stephen Roche became only the second man in cycling history to win the Tours of France and Italy and the World Professional Road Race Championship in the same year.

The French-based Dubliner was Eddy Merckx of Belgium who achieved the feat in 1974.

Roche, 27, completed the treble with a pulsating victory among the mountains and lakes of southern Austria in a race which started in a thunderstorm and ended, appropriately for the Irishman, in sunshine.

To complete a great day for the Irish, Roche's compatriot Sean Kelly finished fifth.

Over the last four kilometre of the 276-kilometre test five riders, including Roche, last year's winner Moreno Argentin of Italy, and the Spaniard Juan Martin Fernandez broke clear.

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY VACANCY

The Australian Embassy wishes to thank all individuals who applied for the vacancy of Clerk/Typist and advises that the vacancy has now been filled.

Bet Twice finished second in

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TRIO IN ACTION: Yarmouk University goalkeeper Khalidah Isheidat (left) moves to fend off a kick by Nuri Yadrej, the University of Jordan forward, during a match played Sunday in the first Arab Collegiate Sports Festival. Yarmouk University team topped the soccer qualifying heats table after beating the University of Jordan 1-0. The University of Jordan secured the second position and the third place was won by Bahrain University.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

100 injured in Bangladesh soccer violence

DHAKA (R) — About 100 fans were injured, 10 seriously, after clashes broke out during a match between Bangladesh's two top football teams on Sunday, police said. They said riot police fired tear gas and used stones and batons to disperse the fans after the Dhaka Mohammadan sporting club defeated Abahani Kirira Chakra 3-2 in an exciting league match. The police gave no reasons for the clash, saying such incidents had been a commonplace in big matches. "Some fans just go berserk when their teams face defeat," one police official told reporters.

Soviet runners win Hokkaido Marathon

SAPPORO, Japan (AP) — Fedor V. Ryzhov ran away with the men's race while compatriot Lutisia A. Beliaev took the women's race Sunday in the 1987 Hokkaido Marathon. Ryzhov, who led from the 15-kilometre point, covered the 42.195 metres in the rain in 2 hours, 24 minutes, 28 seconds, far ahead of Japan's Tatsuyuki Taji, who finished in 2:33:13.

Britons win individual yachting title

TOKYO (AP) — A British yacht sailed by 1987 British champions James Hardy and Ian Tillet won Sunday's final race and captured the individual title in the international 14-foot dinghy world championships. The Hardy-Tillet team collected a total of three points in winning five of the seven races on Lake Inawashiro, 200 kilometres northeast of Tokyo. They finished second in the fourth race and came in fourth in the sixth race. The winner of each race received zero points, the second place three points, the third place 5.7 points and so on. The lowest total was



Piquet... a slice of luck

Piquet outmanoeuvres Senna to win Italian Grand Prix

MONZA, Italy (R) — Nelson Piquet extended his lead in the world drivers' championship to a commanding 14 points over fellow-Brazilian Ayrton Senna when he won the Italian Grand Prix on Sunday.

But Piquet, driving Williams fitted with the new active ride suspension, again owed his victory to a slice of good fortune after trailing Senna in a Lotus for much of a closely-contested race.

Senna, who led from the 24th lap, swerved off the circuit on the 43rd of 50 laps when overtaking a back marker. There was a cloud of dust as he drove into a sand trap and Piquet took his chance to race into the lead. He went on to win by just 1.8 seconds.

Brition Nigel Mansell was third, in another Williams but never challenged the leading pair after the early laps. Austrian Gerhard Berger in a Ferrari came in fourth ahead of Belgian Thierry Boutsen in a Benetton and Stefan Johansson of Sweden in a McLaren.

Bordeaux Bob finished fifth, while Bet Twice, the Belmont Stakes and Haskell Handicap winner, was sixth in the field of nine.

Craig Perrett, Bet Twice's jockey, said, "I spent the whole race trying to get into a striking position and when I got him in that zone, he just didn't fire. I guess the triple crown kind of got to him."

Bet Twice finished second in

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Filipino, Japanese woman win Malaysian marathon

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Jimmy Dela Torre of the Philippines won the 6th annual International Penang Marathon on Sunday. He won in 6:45 minutes and said he would use his 15,000-ringgit (\$3,970) first prize to buy a house.

Dela Torre, 24, who holds the Southeast Asian Games Marathon record of 2 hours, 25 minutes, in Sunday's finished in 2:29:52 in Sunday's marathon through the streets of Penang, 300 kilometres northwest of Kuala Lumpur.

Australian John Duck, 35, was second in 2:31:43 and collected 3,000 ringgit (\$1,190). Japan's Tetsuji Iwase finished third in 2:33:15 and won 1,000 ringgit (\$400).

"I never expected to win. I

thought the Japanese and the defending champion Taiwanese Ho Shin-Yen and a few others were better than me," said Dela Torre, a shop assistant from Pavin in Illoilo City near Manila.

He said the prize money "works out to around 150,000 pesos and with such an amount, I can purchase a big house back home."

In the women's section, defending champion Satsuko Hanafusa of Japan retained her title in 2:54:58 over the same 42.195-kilometre distance. She won 5,000 ringgit (\$1,990).

British Leslie Watson was second in 3:02:51, winning 2,000 ringgit (\$796), while Malaysia's Connie Ng Kim Liang came third in 3:17:13 and collected 1,000 ringgit (\$400).

"

Becker, McEnroe stumble into fourth round of U.S. Open

NEW YORK (R) — Defending champion Ivan Lendl breezed through another easy match, but Boris Becker and John McEnroe had to work long and hard for their third round U.S. Open victories on Saturday.

Becker, the fourth-seeded West German, dropped the second set to a surprisingly powerful Andrew Castle of Britain while playing on an injured ankle but rebounded to win 6-4, 5-7, 6-2, 7-5 in three and a half hours.

Castle, a qualifier, was the first British player ever to take a set from Becker, who was still struggling a little with his serve.

Becker twisted his right ankle while playing a set in the second set, but after the ankle was taped up at 1-0 in the third he raced through to take a two sets to one lead.

After breaking Castle with a deep backhand volley to lead 6-5 the West German finished the match looking like the Becker who won two Wimbledon titles as

he held serve at love by blasting two aces and two service winners.

"I am especially pleased with the way I finished. I am pumped up to meet Brad," Becker said referring to Brad Gilbert, the 13th-seeded American.

Saturday was a typical day at the office for the eighth-seeded McEnroe.

McEnroe took a thrilling four-hour match from hard serving Slobodan Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-3 but not before squandering two set points

and receiving a point and then a game penalty for verbally abusing the umpire and a television soundman.

The game penalty came with McEnroe down 6-5, giving Zivojinovic the second set without having to play a point in the deciding game.

It took McEnroe a set and a half to regain his composure, but pumped up by the controversy and the crowd the "bad boy" of tennis recovered to win the last two sets and advance.

But there was one happy manager in the Second Division. Ron Atkinson, former boss of Manchester United, took over at struggling West Bromwich Albion this week and in his first game in charge watched them record their only win so far this season, 2-1 against Shrewsbury.

More examples of fierce tackling marred Miranda's party at Newcastle. The £1.6-million signing, the first Brazilian to play for an English club, was overshadowed in his home debut by a bruising Wimbledon side.

Charlton's Lennie Lawrence was another manager with little reason to smile. His team, bottom of the First Division, lost 1-0 to Queen's Park Rangers and

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Weekly Financial Report

By Fouad Batshon

AMMAN — Last week, the U.S. dollar fell sharply against European currencies and the Japanese yen. The main reason for the drop was the bad economic figures released in New York during the week and the lesser tension in the Gulf area.

The trading range was however wide because of the huge selling volume of the dollar by major banks and brokers. Speculators sold the dollar unafraid of central banks' intervention in support of the U.S. unit.

For the second time within the past two weeks, the Bundesbank, the Bank of Japan, the Swiss National Bank and the Bank of France intervened on Friday to halt the dollar from falling further but to no avail.

The dollar traded between 0.338 - 0.349 fils on the Jordanian dinar. Local banks and financial companies were selling their dollar positions because they feared another huge drop on the dollar.

Charts indicate that the dollar is now resuming its downward trend and dealers may be willing to sell the dollar on every rally. The expected range for this week could be 0.334 - 0.344 fils.

The pound sterling traded much higher because of the weaker dollar. The pound

traded between 0.560 - 0.565 fils. The D.M. and S.F. also traded higher because of the lower dollar. The S.F. traded between 0.221 - 0.228 fils. The D.M. traded higher between 0.1875 - 0.1950 fils, and the Austrian shilling traded between 0.212 - 0.215 fils.

The Lebanese lira traded lower between (820 - 730) L.L./JD, the Syrian lira traded between (100 - 92) S.L./JD, the Kuwaiti dinar traded between 1.200 - 1.210 on the JD, the Egyptian pound between 0.140 - 0.150 fils and the Iraqi dinar between 0.240 - 0.260 fils.

Metals traded higher for the first time since the dollar started to fall in the last three weeks. Bullion houses and banks started buying heavily what they missed two weeks earlier.

Gold jumped from a low of \$452 an ounce to \$466 an ounce. Silver from \$7.22 to \$7.82 an ounce.

Charts indicate that metals are still in a bull trend and dealers may be willing to stay long on both metals and to scale down more any setbacks.

Gold prices in Amman based on the daily bulletin presented by the Jordan Jewellery Store are as follows:

Gold 21 carats per gramme JD 4.500 - JD 4.250
Gold 18 carats per gramme JD 5.000 - JD 4.500

Wage freeze in Greece will end in December

ATHENS (R) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu on Saturday announced an end to a two-year wage freeze from January next year, saying his government's austerity programme had been successful.

"We can now say with firmness that the economy is in recovery. We are ready for the big leap of reform," he said in a speech opening an annual trade fair in Salomika, northern Greece.

The austerity programme, introduced in October 1985, was highly unpopular with workers and trade unions who staged a series of general strikes and work stoppages over the past two years.

But he admitted that the 10 per cent goal will not be reached and inflation would run three to four per cent above that figure at the end of this year, about three times the level of most European Community member states.

Mr. Papandreu said the elimination of net foreign borrowing planned for the next two years would be "a milestone in the course of the Greek economy."

But officials said the country's foreign debts will rise to about \$17.2 billion by the end of this year from \$16.8 billion at the end of 1986.

Mr. Papandreu said Greece's trade record had improved, noting that the balance of current accounts closed with a surplus of \$361 million in July this year — four and a half times greater than that in July 1986.

He added that the government's incomes policy in 1988 would provide for a reduction in taxation to help pay for the increased incomes.

Mr. Papandreu said the state would also subsidise the rents of low income groups and employers would be allowed to give productivity bonuses in negotiation with employees.

He said the government's stabilisation programme had succeeded in bringing down inflation and the deficit in the balance of payments.

De Beers will raise uncut diamond prices by 10%

LONDON (R) — De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd, which has a virtual monopoly over the world's rough diamond sales, said its Central Selling Organisation (CSO) would raise its gemstone prices by an overall 10 per cent next month.

The South African mining group said the varying increases, which would be weighted towards the larger uncut gem diamond sizes, would be introduced at its next sale, known as a "sight," scheduled for Oct. 5.

Momentum for a price rise came mainly from demand in Japan and South East Asia and underlined the healthy state of the diamond market, a De Beers spokesman said.

The price rise will not apply to the cheaper end of the industrial diamond market, De Beers said.

Japanese diamond imports in the first seven months of the year were up 60 per cent in dollar terms and 34.2 per cent in terms of the stronger yen, the spokesman said.

"There's certainly evidence that the Japanese are buying a wider range of large goods," he added.

Last year, De Beers raised prices twice, by 7.5 per cent in April and seven per cent in November. Before that, there was a 3.5 per cent increase in early 1983 when the diamond industry was in the worst recession since the 1930s.

The De Beers spokesman said pricing details on the various categories of stones were not available, but he noted that a one carat polished investment diamond, known as "D Flawless," could be bought for around \$13,500 to \$15,000.

Industry sources added that demand for so-called "investment diamonds," which reached a peak in the inflationary period in the late 1970s, is now dormant. The one carat D Flawless price peaked at around \$60,000 in 1980.

In July, the CSO reported first-half 1987 sales of \$1.56 billion compared with \$1.21 billion a year earlier and \$1.34 billion in the second half of 1986.

Privatisation of JAL advances

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese government last week cleared another hurdle in its efforts to sell off its shares in Japan Airlines (JAL), one of several major state firms due to be privatised.

A government plan to sell its 34.5 per cent JAL stake, valued at more than \$5 billion, was approved by the upper house of parliament.

The president said the country is in its 58th month of economic growth and more than 13.5 million jobs have been created since the expansion began.

Burma invalidates banknotes

RANGOON (R) — Burma invalidated its top value banknotes on Saturday in a surprise move which official sources said was aimed at black-marketeers and counterfeit notes being used by anti-government rebels to buy supplies.

A snap government announcement said the 75-kyat note would no longer be legal tender. The government said it was also demonetising the 35- and 25-kyat notes, which have already been withdrawn from circulation.

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today is a fine time to be very outgoing and to put your progressive ideas into motion. Try to get some new perspectives from exciting acquaintances.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Find some new type of recreation which will help you out of the rut you're in. Be more unpredictable.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Think about making your outside activities more interesting, and also more lucrative. Make the most of your talents.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) If you show some enthusiasm about a project you've been studying, you're likely to attract valuable assistance.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Modern business and bookkeeping methods are essential if you're to become successful.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You want to renew a relationship with a bizarre, but interesting, person. Go ahead and do it, you won't regret it.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be more efficient at your workplace, and improve your outlook on life in general. Improve your relationships with co-workers.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Making new contacts would be very beneficial today. Make a plan of action early today and follow through with it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Inviting an intelligent friend into your home would help to bring your family more harmony and happiness.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Improving your work routines will help your success. A little trip would be wise, but make arrangements carefully.

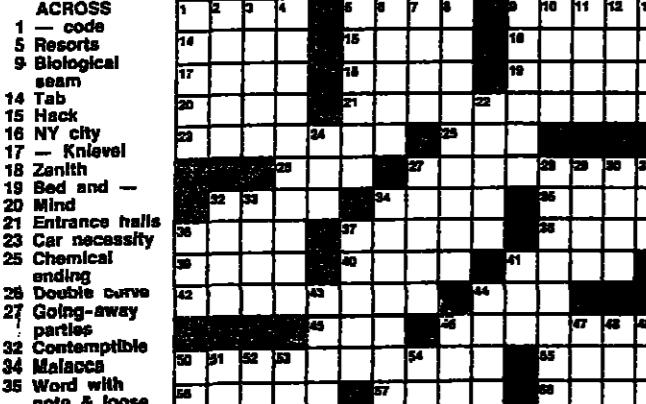
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Budget your time so that you have an opportunity to check the sources of your information; they may not be valid.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Whether entertaining in your home, or a guest at another's, you can be very exciting. Dress "to the nines."

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) An opportunity to get into a new interest should not be missed. Seek out and carefully consider advice from others.

THE Daily Crossword

by Bernard Maren



Yesterday's Puzzles Solved:

1	ACROSS	5	Resorts	9	Biological	13	Team	17	Black	14	TV	18	NY city	19	— Kneivel	20	Mind	21	— Necessity	22	Chemical ending	23	Double curve	24	Going away	25	Comptable	26	Malocca	27	Word with note & loose	28	Flower receptacles	29	Churish expressions	30	Healing plant	31	Move slowly	32	To be in	33	Tour	34	Vanderbilt act	35	Fireplace residue	36	Salt — Marie	37	Givens	38	Fir exactly	39	Go concerned	40	— Oakley	41	Actress Kirk	42	Military group	43	Snake	44	Godness of	45	Gr. cheese	46	Crosses	47	— Mable	48	Gratia	49	Helps a criminal	50	Fastener	51	Verdugo of him	52	Ad Hoc	53	— freedom	54	Gold warning	55	Swine's place	56	Geacho	57	Weapon	58	Above	59	Holmidales	60	Ad Hoc	61	— freedom	62	Gold warning	63	Swine's place	64	Geacho	65	Weapon	66	Above	67	Holmidales	68	Ad Hoc	69	— freedom	70	Gold warning	71	Swine's place	72	Geacho	73	Weapon	74	Above	75	Holmidales	76	Ad Hoc	77	— freedom	78	Gold warning	79	Swine's place	80	Geacho	81	Weapon	82	Above	83	Holmidales	84	Ad Hoc	85	— freedom	86	Gold warning	87	Swine's place	88	Geacho	89	Weapon	90	Above	91	Holmidales	92	Ad Hoc	93	— freedom	94	Gold warning	95	Swine's place	96	Geacho	97	Weapon	98	Above	99	Holmidales	100	Ad Hoc	101	— freedom	102	Gold warning	103	Swine's place	104	Geacho	105	Weapon	106	Above	107	Holmidales	108	Ad Hoc	109	— freedom	110	Gold warning	111	Swine's place	112	Geacho	113	Weapon	114	Above	115	Holmidales	116	Ad Hoc	117	— freedom	118	Gold warning	119	Swine's place	120	Geacho	121	Weapon	122	Above	123	Holmidales	124	Ad Hoc	125	— freedom	126	Gold warning	127	Swine's place	128	Geacho	129	Weapon	130	Above	131	Holmidales	132	Ad Hoc	133	— freedom	134	Gold warning	135	Swine's place	136	Geacho	137	Weapon	138	Above	139	Holmidales	140	Ad Hoc	141	— freedom	142	Gold warning	143	Swine's place	144	Geacho	145	Weapon	146	Above	147	Holmidales	148	Ad Hoc	149	— freedom	150	Gold warning	151	Swine's place	152	Geacho	153	Weapon	154	Above	155	Holmidales	156	Ad Hoc	157	— freedom	158	Gold warning	159	Swine's place	160	Geacho	161	Weapon	162	Above	163	Holmidales	164	Ad Hoc	165	— freedom	166	Gold warning	167	Swine's place	168	Geacho	169	Weapon	170	Above	171	Holmidales	172	Ad Hoc	173	— freedom	174	Gold warning	175	Swine's place	176	Geacho	177	Weapon	178	Above	179	Holmidales	180	Ad Hoc	181	— freedom	182	Gold warning	183	Swine's place	184	Geacho	185	Weapon	186	Above	187	Holmidales	188	Ad Hoc	189	— freedom	190	Gold warning	191	Swine's place	192	Geacho	193	Weapon	194	Above	195	Holmidales	196	Ad Hoc	197	— freedom	198	Gold warning	199	Swine's place	200	Geacho	201	Weapon	202	Above	203	Holmidales	204	Ad Hoc	205	— freedom	206	Gold warning	207	Swine's place	208	Geacho	209	Weapon	210	Above	211	Holmidales	212	Ad Hoc	213	— freedom	214	Gold warning	215	Swine's place	216	Geacho	217	Weapon	218	Above	219	Holmidales	220	Ad Hoc	221	— freedom	222	Gold warning	223	Swine's place	224	Geacho	225	Weapon	226	Above	227	Holmidales	228	Ad Hoc	229	— freedom	230	Gold warning	231	Swine's place	232	Geacho	233	Weapon	234	Above	235	Holmidales	236	Ad Hoc	237	— freedom	238	Gold warning	239	Swine's place	240	Geacho	241	Weapon	242	Above	243</
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Aquino urged to sack Ramos

Most mutineers may be returned to units

MANILA (Agencies) — Reformists in the Philippine military have renewed demands for the dismissal of Armed Forces Chief Fidel Ramos, who saved President Corazon Aquino from a coup attempt nine days ago.

The Movement for Professionalism in the Armed Forces (MPA) feels poor leadership by Gen. Ramos has fuelled discontent in the army, which is fighting a bitter insurgency by Communist guerrillas, the Manila Chronicle newspaper said on Sunday.

MPA officers, who the Chronicle said, include active and retired senior officers, also accuse Gen. Ramos of nursing presidential ambitions, the respected newspaper said.

Gen. Ramos, whose term as chief of staff runs until 1989, could not be reached for comment. But he has said he will step down any time Mrs. Aquino wants him to.

Mrs. Aquino publicly praised Gen. Ramos last week for putting down the Aug. 25 army revolt and has often expressed confidence in him.

The Chronicle said the MPA was unconnected with the coup attempt, which was quelled after fierce fighting around the presidential palace, a television station and a major army camp.

The coup leaders also demanded Gen. Ramos' dismissal.

In a letter to an unnamed cabinet official last month, MPA officers accused Gen. Ramos of promoting favourites and said he wanted to become president in elections in 1992, the Chronicle said.

It said the letter accused Gen. Ramos of keeping Mrs. Aquino ignorant of discontent within the

military to make himself indispensable to her.

The Chronicle did not identify the group's leaders but said most of its members are in the navy.

The military chief on Sunday approved a plan that eventually will return to active duty most of the troops captured in last month's coup attempt against President Aquino.

Meanwhile, a statement broadcast by the leader of the coup attempt was a hot topic Sunday on Manila radio call-in shows. Many callers urged a public dialogue about the allegations of corruption and mismanagement raised by the mutineers.

In the statement broadcast Saturday by private radio station DZRH, coup leader Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan vowed to continue his struggle against Mrs. Aquino's "misguided and incapable" leadership.

The military press office announced Sunday that Gen. Ramos had approved a recommendation by his staff for processing the 35 officers and 774 enlisted men detained on two Philippine Navy ships in Manila Bay following the Aug. 28 coup attempt.

In the report to Gen. Ramos, Maj.-Gen. Eduardo Ermita, the deputy chief of staff, said 65 percent of the detainees were privates or privates first class and "may be the least involved among the participants in the mutiny." It was proposed that military

and police elements in this category be segregated and transferred to the custody of their major service commands for deprocessing, retraining and reorientation so that they can be restored to normal duties," the military press statement said.

A military commander in the northern Philippines escaped unharmed from an ambush on Friday which killed three of his security guards, a military spokesman said.

He said Brigadier-General Felix Brawner was on his way to Manila from Isabela province when his two-car convoy was fired at.

Nineteen military recruits died and nearly 140 others have been hospitalised in what authorities said Sunday could have been a mass poisoning.

Military officials said many of the 225 Philippine Constabulary in the 225 Philippine Constabulary in a training class in Zamboanga City fell ill Saturday after a seven-kilometre jog.

First reports said the recruits apparently suffered heat strokes, but officials said Sunday further investigation indicated possible poisoning.

Officials said survivors reported that an unidentified person offered them water and candies during the run in Zamboanga City, about 850 kilometres south of Manila.

"It is my opinion, based on my observation of patients, that a lethal or toxic substance, possibly pesticides, might have been mixed with water and given to the victims," said Lt.-Col. Dante Quibang, a physician and deputy commander of the military hospital where most of the recruits were taken.

During the 1980s, Col. Bagaza came into increasing conflict with the influential Roman Catholic Church.

He expelled about 200 foreign missionaries and restricted religious activity on the grounds that the church was seeking to challenge the government.

The small central African country's borders remained closed on Saturday. Nairobi-based diplomats in radio contact with their embassies in Bujumbura said the capital appeared calm.

Col. Bagaza, a 41-year-old colonel, was reported to have flown to the Ugandan capital, Kampala.

Security officials at the Nairobi hotel where he stayed on Friday night said he was driven to Wilson Airport, the city's main centre for private flying, apparently bound for Uganda.

An airline official at Uganda's Entebbe Airport told Reuters later by telephone that a charter flight from Nairobi had arrived but he was unable to say whether Col. Bagaza was on board.

The talks resume in Geneva just three days before U.S. and Soviet officials are to meet, also in Geneva, to discuss the Afghanistan question and the situation in the Gulf.

The new round also precedes by a week the scheduled meeting between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Washington, where the Afghan question is likely to be on their agenda. Mr. Shevardnadze may also meet with Presi-

Burundi's new leader says coup prompted by patriotism

NAIROBI (R) — Burundi's new leader, Maj. Pierre Buyoya, said on Saturday that a coup which overthrew President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza last week was peaceful and prompted by patriotism.

In an address on Bujumbura Radio monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, Mr. Buyoya said: "We were only fulfilling our patriotic duty when our endangered motherland called for it. We did it peacefully and with the dignity which characterises our people."

Col. Bagaza was deposed on Thursday while attending summit of Francophone countries in Canada.

Maj. Buyoya, who described himself as chairman of a 20-strong Military Committee of National Redemption, said statements issued after Col. Bagaza's own takeover in a coup 11 years earlier denounced the acquisition by one person of political power, the violation of the constitution and incoherent economic policy.

He continued: "We are unfortunately forced to note that just a few years later, the regime of the second republic had fallen into the same errors."

Maj. Buyoya, 39, said Burundi's foreign policy would be based on non-interference in the affairs of other states and that freedom of religious worship would be respected.

During the 1980s, Col. Bagaza

S. Africa, Angola agree to mass prisoner swap

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa says it has agreed on a mass prisoner exchange involving a Frenchman, a Dutchman, a South African, scores of Angolans and possibly some Cubans.

President P.W. Botha said in a statement on Saturday, "arrangements are presently in progress to effect the exchange on Monday."

He said the swap, announced earlier in Paris, would take place in the Mozambican capital Maputo.

Under the deal, Angola will release a captured South African military officer, a tribal homeland will free jailed Frenchman Pierre Albertini and South Africa will allow Dutchman Klaas de Jonge to leave diplomatic sanctuary in Pretoria.

Maj. Botha said 133 Angolan soldiers will be freed by rebels of the right-wing National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and that "certain Angolan and Cuban citizens" might be returned to Angola later.

South Africa acknowledges supplying UNITA in its bush war against the Angolan government, which has support from Cuban troops. It denies Angolan reports that South African troops frequently raid deep into its territory in support of UNITA.

Maj. Botha said Monday's ex-

change would include the bodies of three South African soldiers and one Angolan.

South Africa had promised that a further seven Angolan captives would be freed within 10 days of Monday's swap, while Angola had agreed to release the bodies of other South Africans as soon

as possible, he added.

It was not clear from Mr. Botha's statement whether UNITA was holding all the Angolans and Cubans and a Foreign Ministry spokesman declined to elaborate.

The South African officer, Major Wynand Du Toit, was captured in May 1985 in northern Angola. He told a news conference there that he had been on an abortive raid on a U.S.-owned oil installation in the northern enclave of Cabinda.

South Africa said Maj. Du Toit had been forced to say this and that he was merely on a reconnaissance mission.

Albertini was jailed in the tribal homeland of Ciskei in March for four years for refusing to testify at a trial of several anti-apartheid leaders facing terrorism charges.

The deal breaks diplomatic deadlock over demands by Ciskei's rulers that France must negotiate its release with them. France had refused to do so because no foreign state recognises Ciskei, set up by South Africa under its policy of racial segregation.

The release of De Jonge, who celebrated his 50th birthday on Saturday in the Dutch embassy where he took refuge more than two years ago, will solve another diplomatic headache.

South Africa wanted to try him on charges of helping African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas. The Netherlands refused to hand him over after he gave security police interrogators the slip and sought diplomatic sanctuary.

COLUMNS 7&8

Comedy closes after 16 years

LONDON (AP) — *No Sex Please, We're British*, the stage comedy that opened to a chorus of critical jeers, has closed after playing for more than 16 years and collecting \$8 million (\$12.2 million) at the box office. Producer John Gale blamed the closing on a general malaise in the West End theatre district. "But, frankly, after 16 years, it's conceivable we have come to the end of our audience in London," he said. The final show was the 6,761st performance of the farce at London's Duchess Theatre, where it opened on June 3, 1971. "I suppose all good things must come to an end," said Gale. "When the show opened in 1971, I thought it would probably run for a year. It's very nice to be proved so wrong." Only one London critic thought the farce was wrong when it first opened, but the play recouped its initial \$12,000 (then about \$29,000) in six weeks.

Madonna's Italian debut called a success

FLORENCE, Italy (AP) — Italian newspapers praised Madonna's debut concert in the country as a commercial success and a "magic" evening, but questioned the quality of the music. The day after 70,000 enthusiastic fans packed the Turin Municipal Soccer Stadium to see her perform 16 songs, organisers of Sunday's concert in Florence reported that all 55,000 seats in the stadium had been sold out. The Friday night concert, broadcast live by Italian RAI television to Italy and other European countries, was seen by more than 14 million Italian viewers. The television monitoring company Auditel called it a record. While the young crowd in Turin was ecstatic about the performance, Italian critics gave it mixed reviews, most praising it as a commercial, rather than musical, success. "If you want emotions that come from the heart rather than the belly, look elsewhere. If you expected musical novelty, you went to the wrong concert," wrote Rome's *Il Messaggero*, which nevertheless concluded with, "Madonna, what a concert you have given us this evening." The Milan daily *Corriere Della Sera* called the concert "a magic evening," but said, "we're not sure Madonna... will go down in the anthologies of rock or pop music." Rome's *La Repubblica* said Madonna had evoked "energy... of a material that before today had never been seen at great gatherings of youth." It called the performance "pure plastic," and a "high quality commercial product."

Judge rejects Japanese name for child

PARIS (R) — A French court has banned a couple from christening their daughter with a Japanese name, court sources have said. They said a court in the south western city of Lyon had ruled a keen interest in Japanese culture was not enough of a reason for the local family to baptise their daughter Keiko. Under French law, a judge can ban parents from giving their children names deemed unusual. The parents, wanted to give their child four first names, Keiko Marie Anna and Carlota, and the court ruled the child should be called Carlota Maria Anna Keiko, allowing the Japanese name as a fourth name. The parents said after the ruling they would continue to call their daughter Keiko.

Wall walker vows to 'invade S. Union'

SEATTLE (AP) — John Rennings, known as the "wall walker" for his protests atop the Berlin Wall, has vowed "to invade the Soviet Union" to protest the four-year prison sentence given West German filer Mathias Rust. Rennings, 70, of Seattle, was expelled from East Germany in February after being held for three months following his latest protest against the barrier dividing East and West Berlin. He was given a three-year parole period by an East Berlin court, but he said upon his return to the United States that he planned to demonstrate again his opposition to militarily imposed borders. "I want to get somebody to take me in a plane, a balloon or a boat," Rennings said. "Lacking that, I would probably fly to Finland and walk across the border."

U.S. falling behind in academic excellence

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is lagging in its push for academic excellence, a congressman says. "How well we do in arms control negotiations, in finding peace in Central America or competing in the global marketplace depends on the strength of our schools," said Augustus Hawkins, a member of the opposition Democratic Party who represents a district from the state of California in the U.S. House of Representatives. He cited U.S. illiteracy and dropout rates as signs the nation is "falling dramatically behind other nations in academic excellence." "While some industrialised countries are almost 100 percent literate, one-third of American adults cannot read above the ninth-grade level," Hawkins said in the Democratic response to President Ronald Reagan's weekly radio address. "If adult illiteracy is today's national shame, the dropout epidemic among our youth is disastrous for the future," he added. "In some communities, two-thirds of youngsters who enter high school fail to graduate, leading to lives of unemployment and crime."

Two-day Atlantic rowing record claimed

DUBLIN (R) — A 50-year-old Briton claimed on Saturday to have completed the first two-way row across the Atlantic singlehandedly. Don Allum, an advertising executive from London, said he reached Achill Island, off the Republic of Ireland's north western coast on Friday night, 77 days after leaving Canada. Allum said he was almost killed two days ago when his 17-foot (5.5-metre) fibre-glass boat capsized. "I turned over three times in the night," he said. "I wrote my obituary and my goodbyes and put them in a flare jar which I lashed to an oar. I knew that if I went down, the oar would be released and found." Allum set the record for a two-person east-west crossing with a cousin in 1971.

Bill Cosby signs deal with Warner Bros.

LOS ANGELES (R) — Bill Cosby, who has had the top-rated show on U.S. television for three years, has signed an agreement to create, produce and star in his next film for Warner Bros., the studio's president has said. The film will be shot next April, after Cosby winds up work on his situation comedy, the *Cosby Show*, and is scheduled to be released the following Christmas season. Terry Semel, president of Warner Bros., said in a statement: "We're immensely excited that Bill Cosby — who through films, television, records and concert appearances is one of the country's most influential talents — will be making his next picture for Warner." Semel said. No financial details of the agreement were made public. Cosby's most recent film effort, "Leonard: VI," which he starred in and produced for Columbia Pictures, is due to be released in December.

Fire causes damage at Universal Studios

LOS ANGELES (R) — A fire destroyed film sets worth an estimated \$2.5 million at Universal Studios on Friday night after the studio received a telephoned bomb threat, a city fire department spokesman said. Seventy-five studio workers had to leave the area while 200 firemen fought the blaze, which broke out after the studio received an anonymous telephone call threatening to burn and bomb it, spokesman Eduardo Hernandez said. No bomb was found by a police arson unit and no motive for the bomb threat has been established, he added. One of the sets badly damaged was used in the film *Spartacus*, he said.

Beer shares wine shop with Barrell

CAMBRIDGE, England (R) — Magistrates had to keep a straight face when they agreed to new licencees taking over a wine Beer and Andrew Barrell.

U.S. team recommends medical aid for Vietnam

WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S. medical team that went to Hanoi to discuss Vietnamese programmes to rehabilitate war wounded believe there should be a favourable American response to Vietnam's request for assistance.

"We're going to make a positive recommendation," said Fred Downs, a veterans administration (VA) official and member of the study group. "We believe there should be some aid."

At the same time, he made clear that any assistance that does result from the survey would come from private organisations, not the U.S. government, which has no diplomatic relations with Vietnam.

Mr. Downs, who heads the VA's Prosthetics and Sensory Aids Service, joined two other

Sri Lanka enforces curfew after murder of Muslim aide

MUTUR, Sri Lanka (R) — Indian soldiers and Sri Lankan police armed with automatic weapons on Sunday patrolled the dusty streets of this fishing village in eastern Sri Lanka after the murder of a Muslim official threatened to spark a new outbreak of communal violence.

The patrols were enforcing a 20-hour curfew imposed since Thursday when assistant government agent Habib Mohammad was shot dead by three gunmen while on his way to pray at a local mosque.

"There is still tension in the area," a police official said.

Long-simmering animosity between Muslims and Tamils, both minority groups in Sinhalese-dominated Sri Lanka, erupted after the shooting.

Muslims, who make up 90 percent of Mutur's 19,000 population blamed the attack on members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) separatist group.

The Tigers are supposed to have surrendered their arms to Indian peacekeeping troops here to enforce the terms of a pact signed between New Delhi and Colombo aimed at ending a four-year Tamil revolt in northern and eastern Sri Lanka.

It said France tried to join the Commonwealth, grouping Britain's former colonies, 30 years ago just before the Suez crisis, according to official documents. The Sunday Times of London said

the French prime minister had said he did not think there would be any difficulty "over France accepting the leadership of Her Majesty."

Dr. Zametica commented: "Whether this implied that France was prepared, in the manner of Australia, Canada and New Zealand, to accept the queen as head of state, or as with Commonwealth republics, simply to accept her as head of the Commonwealth, is unclear, although the latter is more likely."

The newspaper said Mr. Eden received the proposal with great enthusiasm, telling his cabinet France would bring a more European outlook on international questions and offset the Asian Commonwealth members, India, Pakistan and Malaya. France would also bring the Commonwealth greater influence in world affairs.

China last year made education through the ninth grade compulsory, but acknowledged it would take years before some remote rural areas would be able to achieve that goal. China has more than 1 billion people, about one-fifth of the world population.

Mr. M'Bow said 666 million of the world's illiterates are in Asia and that 54 percent of Asian adults cannot read. Three-fourths of illiterate adults live in rural areas and 60 percent of them are women, he said.

He noted that Jilin province in north east China, a participant in UNESCO programmes, has reduced illiteracy to 4 percent and

political motives, so it's up to the two governments to decide when they want to come back."

The United States pulled